

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the Abstract on page 38 with the following amended Abstract:

A method and apparatus for increasing fractionation capacity and efficiency within an existing distillation column having preexisting mass transfer surface structures with a multiplicity of openings for vapor-liquid contact is provided. Some embodiments of the present invention include microdispersers, either individually or in combination, installed to convert target areas of select openings to achieve an optimal column performance without resorting to a full or partial replacement of the preexisting mass transfer trays. A kit for ~~assembly~~ assembling an increased capacity and efficiency fractionation tray including installation instructions, one or more fastening devices and microdispersing bubble promoters and valves is also disclosed. A system for increasing capacity and efficiency of preexisting trays within a preexisting column is shown whereby microdispersers are used in combination with a revamp of the downcomer structures or other existing structures. The microdispersers may also be used in the construction of new fractionation towers.